

陶淵明詩講錄（十五）（續）

Lectures on Tao Yuanming's Poems: Lecture Fifteen

(continued)

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陶淵明作了歸隱躬耕的決定，以致他的妻子、兒女都得跟他受苦，這使我想起了南宋詞人朱敦儒。

朱敦儒晚節不終，附和秦檜，不是他自己願意那樣做，而是由於秦檜跟他的兒子交往，要請他給孫子做老師。朱敦儒少年的時候，「詩萬首，酒千觴，幾曾著眼看侯王」¹。

多麼清高瀟灑！為什麼老年的時候，秦檜請他去就出來了呢？那是因為他顧念自己的家人子女，是一種人人都有的「父母之心」。人可以不替自己想，難道也可以

Tao Yuanming made the decision to retreat to a simple farm life. Even his wife and children had to bear this hardship with him. This made me think of a poet named Zhu Dunru (朱敦儒).

Zhu Dunru became easily swayed when he was old, going along with Qin Kuai (秦檜) the prime minister who killed the famous General Yue Fei. He did not do this of his own will, but because Qin Kuai was his son's friend who had also wanted Zhu Dunru to be Qin's grandson's teacher. When Zhu Dunru was young, he was so at ease and full of noble ideals, like those he wrote in this verse, "*Writing ten thousand poems, drinking a thousand glasses of wine, when have I ever looked at the king and his relatives?*"¹)

How lofty and carefree he was! Then, why did he agree to come at Qin Kuai's request when he became old? It was because of his consideration for his family. This is what everyone has —

¹ Zhu Dunru, Poem: "Partridges in the Sky" (鷓鴣天, zhè gū tiān).

¹ 朱敦儒《鷓鴣天》

不替自己的家人子女著想嗎？如果我們能夠理解朱敦儒晚年的不得已，那我們就會知道陶淵明現在的決定，是一件多麼不容易的事情。

陶淵明在一封留給兒子們的信裡說，由於自己選擇了種田，所以「使汝等幼而饑寒」，還說，「汝輩稚小家貧，每役柴水之勞，何時可免？念之在心，若何可言」²。

千百年之下，我們覺得陶淵明很超脫、很瀟灑，可是很多人並不知道他付出了什麼樣的代價！他所承受的，不僅是自己的勞苦饑寒，還有他全家人的勞苦饑寒，而且他的妻子兒女都不能理解他！這正是陶淵明和朱敦儒在性格上不同的地方。所以他要「擺落悠悠談」——不管有多少人批評我，說我不對，我把那些話都甩在一邊不加考慮。

而「請從余所之」，是在極平和的態度中，表現出極堅強的口吻。陶詩中常常有這樣的口吻，如我們前邊講過的，「且共歡此飲，吾駕不可回」——我們在一起喝一杯酒吧，但讓我跟著你走，那是不可能的。陶淵明從來不跟別人厲聲厲色大喊大叫，可是他說：「我要走我自己選擇的道路，你們要說什麼儘管去說吧。」你看，多麼平和又多麼堅定。

所以陶詩讀得越多，我們對他人格、品性、修養的瞭解也就越深，因為每一首詩，都是他人品修養的自然流露。

待續

the loving heart of a parent. People may choose not to care for themselves, but how could they not think of their families? If we can understand Zhu Dunru's decision was forced and that he made it to protect his family, especially his children when he was older, then we will know Tao Yuanming's decision was very hard to make.

Tao Yuanming said in a letter to his sons that because of his decision to farm, "*I have made all of you suffer hunger and cold along with me since your childhood.*" He also said, "*You are young and your family is poor. When will you be exempt from the labor of carrying firewood and water? I have these thoughts in my mind, but how do I express them out loud?*"²

For thousands of years, we have thought that Tao Yuanming was very aloof and carefree, but many people don't know the price he paid! What he endured was not only his own hardship, suffering, hunger, and cold, but also the hardships, suffering, hunger, and cold of his whole family, and also his wife and children who could not understand him! This is where Tao Yuanming and Zhu Dunru differ in character. Tao wanted to "Disregard all the frivolous talk." No matter how many people criticized him and said he was wrong, he paid no attention to them.

But, "*I prefer to follow my heart's dictates,*" is written in a very mild manner, yet it has a very firm tone. Tao's poems usually use this tone. As Tao said before, "Let us share this drink happily, but my cart will not turn around." He was essentially saying, "Let's have a glass of wine together, but it is not possible for me to go with you." Tao Yuanming did not speak harshly or talk sternly to others, nor did he ever shout loudly at people. Nevertheless, he said "Say whatever you want to say, but I will walk the path I have chosen." You see, how calm and firm is his mind.

Therefore, the more of Tao's poems we read, the more we understand about his character, integrity, and refined personal nature because every poem is a natural expression of the cultivation of the poet's character.

To be continued

²此陶淵明《與子儼等疏》

² Tao Yuanming, "My Letter to Yan and the Other Children."